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Edward Garner

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Perched Aloof

by Edward Garner

Perched aloof the Linguisttrain Summit,
Towering o'er critics with high reputations,
Transfixed from the cross of repudiations,
Where art thou, oh master of prose deviations?
Come hence, bring thy glory to rest.

Smitten you act by a reference to justice?
Such fools built a temple with chastened foundations,
Adoring its beauty with all eyes of creation.
What fools were to cherish, thus blinded the rest;
Its timbers grew rotten with bugs of redemption.¹
Come, where lives thy honor thou tempest?

Glorious was Oedipus in scorning his patrons,
Seducing the minds of such credited scholars;
Who bequeathed countless others in garnering dollars
To sanction new jewels for thy Arion² Collar.
Come hither. What worth should we wrench from thy lessons?

Rancid are memories that stifle all others;
Be cursed you collector so lost in oblivion.
Pray tell me professor a scholastic opinion
Composed from reputed intellectual freedom.
At last may we crepitate the bellowing martyrs,
Who stink for the honor of what is not theirs.

Wrought over limit, afflicted with pompous,
Market the maker, culture a lie,
Ungrateful parrot thou tongue like a lizard,
Perch in your tower, your tower your bride.

Sad through and weary, a masque lamentation,
Follow the bitter sweet words with a prayer.
Ever they knew such a reincantation
Last sought their effort in humble despair.

Oh, but the dryads³ still wake amongst lilac
Where frolic bares spindles of time they exhume,
And such shall quintesse a raiment of passion,
From whence shall a rose in the sepulchre bloom.

Frenzy! Emotion! Ah yes, be it heaven;
Thence we were buried a long time ago,
Ever to suffer ill pangs of injustice,
Spent by the hell-digging foot of a crow.

Circumspect reason, amorphous of beauty,
Come lay your head on the postulate stone.⁴
Await like a turkey the seasonal axhead;
Custom doth call out the dog to his bone.

Saviour relinquish their curate redundancy,
Mark out the quills of complacent reproach.
Truth is outnumbered by quantified splendor;
Symbols from donkeys that spoil like a roach.

Notes.

1. Alludes to a cross between Egyptian scarab beetles and the American termite.
2. Ancient Greek playwright.
3. Wood nymphs.
4. Alludes to the Kaabah stone of Mecca and also to stones which served as altars for sacrifice (see Judges 6:20)